



Sub-Division Status in Haryana | Haryana | 27 Dec 2024

Why in News?

Recently, **Haryana Chief Minister** announced that **Dahina block** will be granted the [status of a sub-division](#).

Key Points

- **Key Announcements:**
 - **Water Infrastructure** will be constructed in Motalkalan village.
 - A **college** will be established in **Jatusana**.
 - Bhurthala Distributary will be renovated and a bridge will be constructed on the JLN Canal linking Luhana village to Khaleta.
 - Addressing [waterlogging](#) issues in Bas, Pahrajvas, Summa Kheda, Ratnathal, and Lilodh villages.
- The CM **inaugurated and laid the foundation** stones for **six major development projects** worth over Rs. 23 crore.
 - He also declared plans to construct sub-health centres in Natheda and Surkhpur villages, along with primary health centres in Gudiani and Ratnathal villages.

Uttam Seva Medal | Haryana | 27 Dec 2024

Why in News?

On the occasion of [Good Governance Day](#), a **ceremony to honour police personnel** was organised at the **State Emergency Response Centre** in Haryana.

Key Points

- **Highlights of the Ceremony:**
 - [Directors General of Police \(DGP\)](#) honoured the police personnel who had performed commendable work in various fields with the [Uttam Seva Medal](#).
- **Individual Contributions Recognized For:**
 - Enhancing SWAN bandwidth and digitizing wireless communication for the '**SWAN**' project.
 - Contributions to the implementation and monitoring of CCTNS and ICJS projects.
 - Effectively defending cases in higher and lower courts.
 - Commendable work in the [Special Task Force \(STF\) Rohtak](#).
 - Advancing the [e-challaning application](#).
 - Reuniting 845 missing children with their families nationwide.
 - Bravery in arresting major criminals during his STF tenure and was recognized for his

efforts.

State Wide Area Network (SWAN)

- SWAN is a central scheme to **establish a converged backbone network for data, voice, and video communications across the country.**
- It was **approved in March 2005** and is one of the core infrastructure components of the [National e-Governance Plan \(NeGP\)](#).

Good Governance Day

- It is **celebrated on 25th December** to raise awareness among citizens about **government accountability and effective administration.**
 - The **theme for 2024** is **“India’s Path to a Viksit Bharat: Empowering Citizens through Good Governance and Digitalisation.”**
 - It was started in the year **2014** to honor the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister [Atal Bihari Vajpayee](#).
 - The birth anniversary of **Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya** is also observed on **25th December**.

New Hub for India’s Champion Women Shuttlers | Haryana | 27 Dec 2024

Why in News?

Haryana boasts a significant contribution to **India's Olympians and Olympic medalists**. At [Paris 2024](#), nearly **one-fourth of the country's Olympians hailed from the state**, along with four out of five individual medalists.

Key Points

- **Growth of Badminton:**
 - Haryana has witnessed **increasing grassroots participation in various sports**, with badminton becoming the latest discipline to gain significant traction.
- **Rising Badminton Stars:**
 - **Saina Nehwal**, a **London Olympics 2012** bronze medalist, **hails from Haryana** but trained in Hyderabad.
 - Players like **Anmol Kharb**, who helped India clinch their first [Badminton Asia title in 2024](#) at just 17, and **Unnati Hooda** have honed their skills in Haryana.
 - Haryana’s women’s team won their first-ever [Senior National badminton championship](#) gold, with Devika Sihag claiming the women’s singles title, marking a hat-trick after Anmol (2023) and Anupama Upadhyaya (2022).
- **Shifting Focus from Traditional Sports:**
 - Areas like Rohtak and Sonapat, traditionally known for [kabaddi](#) and [wrestling](#), are now seeing parents encourage badminton due to its non-contact nature and compatibility with education.
 - **Increased ranking tournaments in North India** have provided more **opportunities** for local players.
- **Future Goals:**
 - Coaches emphasized the need to **translate national-level victories** into **international**

success.

- Haryana continues to prioritize performance over commercial interests, **aiming to replicate its wrestling dominance in badminton.**

OLYMPICS

Ancient History

- ↳ Originated - Olympia, Greece (776 BC)
- ↳ Connected to Greek culture and religion
- ↳ Events - Running, wrestling, and chariot racing
- ↳ Abolished - 393 AD by Emperor Theodosius I

Modern History

- ↳ Revived - Late 19th century by Pierre de Coubertin (Founding member of IOC)
- ↳ First modern Olympics - Athens, Greece (1896)

Upcoming Events

- ↳ **Winter Olympics 2026:** Milan-Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy
- ↳ **Summer Olympics 2028:** Los Angeles, USA
- ↳ **Summer Olympics 2032:** Brisbane, Australia
- ↳ India intends to host Olympic Games 2036

Logo and Motto

- ↳ **Logo:** 5 interlocking rings of blue, yellow, black, green, and red colors on a white background (**represents union of 5 continents and meeting of world athletes**)
- ↳ **Motto:** *Citius, Altius, Fortius – Communiter* (Faster, Higher, Stronger – Together) ('Communiter' was added in 2021)



International Olympic Committee (IOC)

- ↳ Estd - 1894
- ↳ Guardian of the Olympic Games
- ↳ HQ - Lausanne, Switzerland

5 new sports added in Tokyo 2020 Olympics: Surfing, Skateboarding, Sport Climbing, Karate and Baseball/Softball

PARIS OLYMPICS 2024

India at 71st place in the medal tally; a decline from 48th place in Tokyo 2020)

Indian Sportspersons /Team	Medal	Event
Neeraj Chopra	Silver	Men's Javelin Throw
Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh	Bronze	10m air pistol mixed team event
Swapnil Kusale	Bronze	Men's 50m rifle 3 positions
Indian Hockey team	Bronze	Men's hockey
Manu Bhaker	Bronze	Women's 10m air pistol event
Aman Sehrawat	Bronze	Wrestling Men's 57kg freestyle event

Indian Olympic Association (IOA)

- ↳ Founded - 1927

- ↳ Selects athletes to represent India at Olympics, Asian Games and CWG



Why in News?

A new [Centre of Excellence for Ceramics](#) is being **established in Rajasthan**. It is set to promote the industry with **exploration, [mining](#), processing and world-class research**.

Key Points

- **Abundant Ceramic Mineral Reserves:**
 - **Rajasthan possesses vast reserves** of [ceramic minerals](#) like ball clay, [silica sand](#), [quartz](#), china clay, and feldspar.
 - **Raw materials are being sent to other states for processing**, despite significant potential for **ceramic-based industries** and job creation within Rajasthan.
- **Role of the Centre:**
 - The **centre will provide technical guidance for mining, processing, and manufacturing** ceramic minerals, optimizing the utilization of local resources.
 - Its services will be pre-defined to ensure utility from day one of operation.
- **Focus Areas:**
 - A major emphasis will be on exploring [silica minerals](#) for producing:
 - Insulators for electricity supply.
 - Sanitaryware products.
 - Tiles for the real estate sector.
 - Pottery and bricks.
 - [Semi-conductors](#) for electronics.
- **Stakeholder Contributions:**
 - Suggestions were received from prominent experts, including officials from **Bikaner Technical University, Central Glass & Ceramic Research Institute (CGCRI)**, and [IIT \(BHU\)](#), to refine the centre's objectives and operational framework.

Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute (CGCRI)

- CGCRI is a national research institute **headquartered in Kolkata**, operating under the [Council of Scientific and Industrial Research \(CSIR\)](#).
- **Founded in 1950**, the institute **specializes in research and development** in areas such as **glass, ceramics, mica, and refractories**.

PM Rashtriya Bal Puraskar | Jammu & Kashmir | 27 Dec 2024

Why in News?

Recently, **Ayaan Sajad** from Anantnag district, Jammu and Kashmir was awarded the prestigious [Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar-2024](#) by [the President](#) for his extraordinary accomplishments **in the fields of art and culture**.

Key Points

- **Extraordinary Talent:**
 - **Ayaan Sajad, a 12-year-old singer**, has gained widespread recognition for his remarkable talent.
 - His [Kashmiri songs](#) went viral on social media, **making him an Internet sensation with millions of views**, and his music continues to trend in Kashmir.

- He aims to represent his country and native Kashmir, inspiring future generations worldwide to follow their passion.

▪ **Acknowledgment and Support:**

- National Conference president and State Chief Minister have **congratulated Ayaan for his achievements.**
- They expressed their hope that his talent and dedication will inspire young minds across the region and reaffirmed their commitment to supporting the youth of Jammu and Kashmir in their pursuit of excellence.

Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar (PMRBP)

▪ **About:**

- The **PMRBP** is organized to **celebrate the energy, determination, ability, zeal and enthusiasm of children.**
- The awards are conferred upon the children **for their excellence in seven categories**, viz. Art & Culture, Bravery, Environment, Innovation, Science & Technology, Social Service and Sports, which deserve national recognition.
- Each awardee of PMRBP is given a **medal, cash prize of Rs. 1 Lakh, a Certificate and a Citation.**
- The selection of awardees was made by a Selection Committee under the **chairpersonship of the Union Minister for Women and Child Development.**
 - The **Awards are given by the President of India** in the week preceding **Republic Day** every year.

▪ **Eligibility:**

- A child who is an **Indian Citizen and is a resident of India.**
- A Child above the age of **5 years and not exceeding 18 years** (as on 31st July of respective year).
- The act/incident/achievement should have been within 2 years of the last date of receipt of application/nomination for the year of consideration.